



STRUCTURE FIRE

A Structure Fire is an uncontrolled fire involving a building or structure. Structure Fires can occur in a residential, commercial, or industrial setting. Fires can easily spread from one structure to others nearby, and the size of a structure fire hazard is constantly evolving, until contained. Structure Fires can be intentional or unintentional, but the origin of the fire is often unknown until after the hazard has been brought under control.



HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There have been 3,468 Structure Fire responses in Howard County during the reviewed time period (2008-2019). The large majority of Structure Fires that occur in the County are residential and cooking-related. In 1999, a six-alarm fire destroyed multiple businesses in downtown Ellicott City.

WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

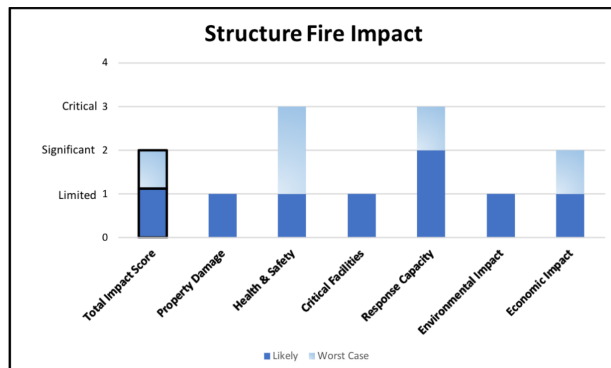
There is an expected 100% Chance of Annual Occurrence of a Structure Fire in Howard County. In the most likely Structure Fire scenario, the Total Impact is considered Limited. In the worst- case scenario, the Total Impact is considered Significant.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Fires may impact vacant structures, residential homes, or highly populated commercial areas or apartment buildings.
- Home fire deaths in the United States have dropped 53 percent since 1977.
- Common temperatures in house fires in modern homes can reach up to 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- [Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment](#)
- [U.S. Fire Administration](#)
- [National Fire Protection Association](#)
- [Ready.gov](#)



Structure Fire Risk Profile				
	Risk Assessment Category	Likely Hazard Scenario	Worst-Case Hazard Scenario	Weight
LIKELIHOOD	Likelihood	3.6 Likely- Very Likely		50%
	Impact	1.1 Limited	2 Significant	40%
CONSEQUENCE	Warning Time	4 Short	4 Short	5%
	Duration	1 Short	2 Moderate	5%
TOTAL RISK SCORE		2.4	2.9	

